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9. (Amended)

[The system claimed in claim 1,] A system for metering

permit mail, wherein a portion of the pre-printed information is printed with a fluorescent ink and the remaining portion of the pre-printed information is printed with a non-luminescent ink, said system comprising:

means for pre-printing information on a mail piece to produce a postal indicia;

means for printing variable payment information within the postal indicia or within the vicinity of the postal indicia.

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10. (Amended)

[The system claimed in claim 1,] A system for metering

permit mail, wherein a portion of the pre-printed information is printed with a phosphorescent ink and the remaining portion of the pre-printed information is printed with a non-luminescent ink, said system comprising:

means for pre-printing information on a mail piece to produce a postal indicia;

means for printing variable payment information within the postal indicia or within the vicinity of the postal indicia.

11. (Amended)

[The system claimed in claim 1,] A system for metering

permit mail, wherein a portion of the variable information is printed with a fluorescent ink and the remaining portion of the variable information is printed with a non-luminescent ink, said system comprising:

means for pre-printing information on a mail piece to produce a postal indicia;

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means for printing variable payment information within the postal indicia or within the vicinity of the postal indicia.

12. (Amended) [The system claimed in claim 1,] A system for metering permit mail, wherein a portion of the variable information is printed with a phosphorescent ink and the remaining portion of the variable information is printed with a non-luminescent ink, said system comprising:

means for pre-printing information on a mail piece to produce a postal indicia;

means for printing variable payment information within the postal indicia or within the vicinity of the postal indicia.

~~3~~ 13. (Amended) The system claimed in claim [1] ~~9~~, further including means for collecting payment for the printed variable payment information.

~~10~~ 19. (Amended) The system claimed in claim [13] ~~18~~, wherein said means for collecting records collects variable security information.

~~17~~ 24. (Amended) The method claimed in claim [21] ~~22~~, wherein the step of printing variable information includes printing the variable information with a dual luminescent ink.